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By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

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"History herself, as seen in her own workshop"



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Captain Wiederholdt in Lancaster

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

AMONG the books in the increasingly valuable library of the Lancaster County Historical Society is a complete set of a publication entitled, "Americana Germanica," in volume 5 of which appears the "Tagebuch des Capt. Wiederholdt"—Diary of Capt. Wiederholdt, a Hessian officer in the Revolutionary War. The first entry was made on October 7th, 1776; the last, on December 7th, 1780—four years later. The diary was edited by the distinguished scholars M. D. Learned and C. Grosse, and published in German. I am indebted to Mr. August Lerbscher, superintendent of the Stehli Silks Corporation and an honored member of the Lancaster County Historical Society, for a translation into English of that portion of Wiederholdt's diary which relates to Lancaster.

At the battle of Trenton, Capt. Wiederholdt and other Hessian soldiers were captured. On the 31st of December, 1776, he and other prisoners were taken in wagons, covered with ducking, to Philadelphia. Dr. Learned, the editor, states that this is one of the earliest references to the "Conestoga Wagon." On the 24th of January, 1777, they were quartered at Dumfries, Virginia, as prisoners of war.

Capt. Wiederholdt writes, in his diary:

"At the request of the officers, prisoners of war, I departed on the 5th of February for Lancaster, Pa., to secure certain papers which were in possession of a Lieutenant Muller. Lancaster is situated in Pennsylvania, about 160 miles from Dumfries. I rode 24 miles on the first day, through desolate country, passing the Aquoquanna and Bull Runn, both of which can be forded, when not swollen by rain or snow water. On the first night, I lodged at New Gatt. On the 6th, I proceeded to New Land's Ferry, passing through Leesburg, a pretty town, where I had dinner. The inn keeper's wife was pretty, attractive and very hospitable. This town is 24 miles from New Gatt, and 12 miles from New Land's Ferry, on the Potomac. On the 7th, I crossed the Potomac on a ferry and rode to Frederick Town, in Maryland. Frederick, about 12 to 14 miles from the Potomac, is a pretty town, inhabited mostly by Germans. I had breakfast there, fed my horse and proceeded on my journey to Towny Town [Taneytown?] about 24 to 26 miles from Frederick. I stayed here over night. It is a rather small place.

"On the 8th, I proceeded to York Town [Pa.], a pretty and rather large city, inhabited mostly by Germans, 36 miles from Towny Town. I passed a village (after having passed the Mono-

kavy creek) named McCollester, or Hannover, where I had dinner. Hannover is a rather small but pretty town. It, also, is inhabited mostly by Germans. It is 12 miles from York Town. Between the Monokavy creek and Hannover is a new and yet small village called Peter Little Town.

"On the 9th to Lancaster, passing the Shushahanna [Susquehanna] river on a ferry about in the middle between York Town and Lancaster. The latter is a large and pretty city, inhabited mostly by Germans. Our prisoners of war in this city, consisting of non-commissioned officers and privates, were stationed in barracks, which were large and sanitary. They were not, however, allowed to leave the barracks.

"Lieutenant Muller had left Lancaster four days prior to my arrival, and, therefore, I could not accomplish anything. I left on the 10th, on my return journey, reaching Hannover on the same day, where I stayed overnight at a German inn. The innkeeper was a scoundrel. At this time and place I was threatened to be hung by a mob of drunken German rascals, but was saved in the nick of time by the arrival of an American captain, of English descent, who was on his way home, with two other gentlemen. They took my part; and had it not been for their arrival I should have been hung or at least assaulted or badly battered up. The captain drove the mob from my room and severely criticized and reprimanded them for their cowardly behavior. His name was Archibald Arms. He lived in the vicinity of Georgetown, where he invited me to visit him. He was already an old man, but very polite and sensible. This incident shows plainly how much you may depend on this low class of Germans.

"On the 11th, we,—the captain, myself and his two escorts,—continued our journey to Monoskiser Ferry.

"On the 12th, to Leesburg, where we spent the night at the previously mentioned pretty innkeeper's."

On the 13th of February, Captain Wiederholdt returned to Dumfries, Virginia.

During the winter of 1777-8, Captain Wiederholdt and other officers of the Hessian army, were quartered, as prisoners of war, in Fredericksburg, Virginia. They enjoyed their detention in this attractive old town, and were treated with the honor and respect to which their rank entitled them. On March 1st, 1778, they departed from Fredericksburg with much regret, having been ordered to join their army on parole in Philadelphia.

Capt. Wiederholdt describes the march northward as follows:

"March 15th. It had rained all night but in the morning the weather cleared up, whereupon we departed from Peter Little Town, at 8:00 o'clock. We arrived at a German inn after 12:00

o'clock, having passed McColleston Town or Hannover on the way, and leaving again at 1:00 o'clock. One or two miles out, we met an American commissary officer of small stature but big feeling and so called 'high spirit.' Without ceremony of compliments, he said:

" 'You must return to Hannover.' "

" 'Why, sir?' "

" 'In town you may hear it.' "

" 'What name and rank are you, sir?' "

" 'My name is Petters. I am commissary of prisoners. Now you will turn and follow me.' "

" 'Yes, sir'."

"After we had returned to town, he informed us that matters in respect to exchanging were not yet settled, and that we were, therefore, obliged to stay until this be done. We had to give him our word of honor not to leave town nor to venture outside of our quarters, after sun down. Lieutenant Sobbe and I were lucky to get good quarters. Our host was a born Swiss, by name of Spittler, a rich and well situated man. He had one single daughter, 13 years of age, who was developed and matured enough to be married. We stayed at this place until April 8th, leaving at 9:30 A. M. We traveled about 12 to 14 miles to an inn, where we intended to rest for dinner. Here we met the exception of an American tavern, for we could get nothing to eat and were compelled to put up in the open and partake of whatever we had with us. While eating dinner, a Mr. Braunslow brought letters to Sobbe and me from Fredericksburg, which were very much appreciated. At 3:00 P. M. we proceeded on our journey and camped two miles out of York Town, in three houses, under protest of the inhabitants.

"April 9th. We broke camp early, and since we could not take the straight road through York Town, we detoured and crossed the Shushannah at the lower ferry, which was slow work. We marched to May Town, where we stayed over night, and proceeded early next morning. On the 10th of April, we arrived at Lancaster at 3:00 P. M. Here we stayed exactly one full week, finally receiving orders to proceed. On the 17th of April, at 1:00 P. M., we rested 15 miles out, at a single house, after passing the Conestoga creek.

"On the 18th, we departed early and marched about 20 miles, arriving at Whit [White] Horse, where we spent the night.

"On the 19th, we sent our express rider to General Boudenot, to inform him of our whereabouts. He (the general) arrived and read our credentials, after which we were allowed to proceed. This was near 12:00 o'clock, and we advanced 18 miles, leaving the highway to encamp, because they did not allow us to pass their

outposts. While we were at the Whit Horse inn a troop of American horsemen arrived and rested about one hour. With them was a troop of Indians, of the Mohawk tribe. These Indians are blacker or rather browner than the Delawares, having long-hanging black hair, a mischievous look in their eyes and a more savage appearance in general. They shoot with bow and arrow in a most admirable way. I have seen, with my own eyes, how they shot through a wine bottle at one hundred paces. Shooting at an angle, they can drive an arrow 200 paces. I took one of the bows and an arrow but as much as I would try I could not drive the arrow more than 100 paces. A bottle, or other object, I could not even hit at 30-40 paces. It requires lots of training and strength to shoot an arrow, and the whole force seems to be embodied in the thumb and forefinger of the right hand.

"On the 20th, we advanced toward Philadelphia, arriving there at noon. Here I found letters for me from Privy Councillor von Gilsae, Pastor Paulus, my brother and H. M.

"On the 6th of May I answered these letters, informing them of our exchange.

"On the 8th of May I received other letters from the Privy Councillor and H. M. These letters were dated November 11th, 1777.

"On the 20th of May I wrote and dispatched answers to these letters. Philadelphia is a large and pretty place and well suited for commerce, but it is not so well situated for this purpose as the city of New York. All the products of the province and interior have to be wheeled here by axle and the imports have to be dispatched inland likewise. The Delaware river is navigable for a good distance inland but only beneficial to the inhabitants of the border people. The Schuylkill is only navigable to small boats a short distance above the city, being blocked by a high waterfall about 6-8 miles above. The city is a rendezvous of all religious sects and nationalities, therefore a mixing place of all sects and denominations, nothing more or less than a Confluens Canaillorum. I believe that the Biblical towns of Sodom and Gomorrah could not beat it in regard to vice."

As Captain Wiederholdt was a prisoner of war, the natural impression would be that he was not pressed with burdensome duties, yet according to his own confession letters received by him on the 20th of April were not answered until the 6th of May; and those received on May 8th were not answered until May 20th. It is also interesting to note that letters written in Europe on the 11th of November, 1777, were not received in Philadelphia until May 8th, 1778, a difference of nearly six months in time.

Baron Riedesel in Lancaster

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

BARON Friederich Adolphus Riedesel (the cockneys in the British army pronounced it Red-hazel) was born in Lauterbach, in Rhinehesse, June 3rd, 1738. At an early age he was sent to Frischborn, a village near Lauterbach, and placed under the care of a clergyman, with a view of giving him a preparatory education that would prepare him for the study of the law, which profession had been selected for him by his father. At the age of fifteen, he left the quiet parsonage to attend a law school in Marburg. A Hessian battalion of infantry, stationed in the town, was specially noted for its fine military appearance and tactics. The sight of the troops thrilled the youth with an eager desire to be a soldier; and it was not long before, throwing aside gown and wig for musket and sword, he joined the regiment.

Upon the breaking out, in 1756, of the Seven Years War, he was attached to the personal staff of Duke Ferdinand of Brunswick. He was engaged in active service throughout the war; and upon peace being declared, retired into winter quarters. He was married in December, 1762, to Frederica Von Massow, at Wulfenbittel, in the Duchy of Brunswick.

In 1767, Riedesel was appointed adjutant general of the Brunswick army; and in 1772, became colonel of carbineers,—a body of troops which was subsequently formed into a regiment of dragoons. Shortly after the American Revolution broke out, England, in order to subdue her revolting colonies, entered, early in 1776, into agreement with petty sovereigns of Germany to take into her service upwards of twenty thousand German troops, of which nearly four thousand were from Brunswick. Colonel Riedesel was advanced to the rank of major-general and given command of the Brunswickers. Sailing for Quebec, he arrived there on June 1st, 1776. One year later, Madame Riedesel, accompanied by her three daughters, joined her husband, whom she had not seen since February 22nd, 1776.

After spending a year in Canada, he accompanied General Burgoyne on the ill-fated expedition which resulted so disastrously for the British arms. After the surrender of Burgoyne to General Gates at Saratoga, he accompanied his commander-in-chief to Albany, where he and his noble wife, who shared his captivity, were entertained with lavish hospitality by General and Mrs. Schuyler. Leaving that city on October 22nd, 1777, he went to Cambridge, Massachusetts, arriving there, with other German prisoners, on November 7th. Here he remained for one year. In

November, 1778, the German troops having been transferred, by order of Congress, to Virginia, General Riedesel and his family went with them.

After Congress decided not to accept the conditions of the surrender at Saratoga, Sir Henry Clinton, in New York, declared that if the convention troops (the name by which the prisoners were known) were to be treated like other prisoners they must be supported by their captors. General William Heath, in command at Boston, received orders from Congress that the British and German prisoners should be removed to Charlottesville, Virginia, a long distance from the theatre of war, and where provisions could be more readily obtained.

The prisoners were marched from Rutland and Cambridge, by the American guard, in the following order, starting on November 9th:

The prisoners were attended by an American escort. The first English division (consisting of the artillery, grenadiers, light infantry and the 9th regiment, under Lieutenant Colonel Hill; and the first German division, consisting of the dragoons, grenadiers, and the regiment Von Rhetz, under Major Von Mengen) were to start on the 5th of November. The second English division (consisting of the 20th and 21st regiments, under command of Major Forster; and the two German divisions, consisting of the regiments Von Riedesel and Von Specht, and led by Brigadier General Specht) were to follow on the 6th. Brigadier Specht was to command the entire German divisions. On the 7th, the third English division (composed of the 24th, 47th and 62nd regiments, under the command of Brigadier Hamilton) was to follow. General Hamilton also had charge of the other two English divisions. The third German division (which was made up of the battalion Barner, the regiment Hesse Hanau, and the Hanau artillery, under Brigadier Gall) were also to march on the same day. Fortunately for Riedesel, the march was postponed for a few days. He writes in his journal:

"The want of money was one of critical importance to our position at that time. All the officers who had money, were obliged to lend it for the use of the troops, who in this manner received their pay in hard cash. Those officers that were in need of money had as much furnished them as was necessary to procure horses, etc., for their long journey. Nor was this any more than fair, as several months' pay was already due them. This arrangement was somewhat of a help, it is true, but not nearly enough to satisfy the demands of all."

On the 9th of November, 1778, the first two divisions began to march. The next day the second division followed. The third division followed on the 11th. Riedesel accompanied the last two

divisions as far as Watertown. He and his family remained in Cambridge until November 28th when they started, in two carriages, for Charlottesville, Virginia. The General and family rode in one; and his servants in the other, which also served for a baggage wagon.

On the 13th of December, 1778, the first of the German troops crossed the Tohickon creek and halted at Plumstead, in Bucks county, Pa. "On the 14th, they reached Montgomery, in Philadelphia county; and on the 15th, New Providence. On the 16th, they crossed the Schuylkill, near Downingtown, to Valley Forge." Riedesel, in making this entry in his journal, was mistaken in his geography. His troops did not cross "the Schuylkill, near Downingtown, to Valley Forge," instead they probably crossed the river near Valley Forge. At the latter place a few days of rest were given them.

William L. Stone, who translated the journal of Riedesel into English, states:

"On the 17th, the march was continued to Salisbury: thence, on the 19th, across Brandywine to Leekok [Leacock] township; thence across the Conestoga river to Lancaster, where, on the 20th, they had another day of rest."

Christopher Marshall, who lived in Lancaster during the Revolutionary war, in the house still standing at 215 East Orange street, kept a diary in which he entered items of importance. Under date of December 14th, 1778, he wrote:

"Went to the barracks [located at North Duke and East Walnut streets]. One division of Burgoyne's troops, said to be seven hundred and eighty-one, came to town."

On the following day he wrote:

"The division of the artillery, grenadiers and light infantry, including Lieut. Col. Nulling's detachment and the Ninth Regiment, all British prisoners, amounting to seven hundred and eighty-one, came to town yesterday, marched out this morning. In the afternoon, came to town the Second Division of British, consisting of the Twentieth and twenty-First Regiments, amounting to Eight hundred and seventy-three, with their women and children. Came home to dinner; then walked to barracks to see the troops come in."

On December 17th, Marshall entered in his diary:

"Yesterday came to town the Third Division of the British, consisting of the Twenty-fourth, Forty-seventh, and Sixty-second Regiments, amounting to Nine hundred and twenty-three prisoners."

On the 19th, he states:

"The three divisions of English prisoners left the barracks this morning, to proceed on their journey. In the afternoon came

to the barracks the First Division of Germans, consisting of the Dragoons, Battalion of the Grenadiers, Regiment of Rhite and Regiment of Rushrs, amounting to Nine hundred and forty-seven, besides women and children. A great many of the Dutch round Lancaster came in to-day, I presume to wait upon the German prisoners."

On December 20th, he wrote:

"The Second Division of Germans consists of the Regiment of Spechts, Battalion of Hanoverians and Hessian Artillery, amounting to Nine Hundred and thirty-five, besides women and children."

On the following day, Marshall made this entry in his diary:

"This morning the First Division of Germans here marched away."

On December 22nd, he recorded:

"The divisions of Hessians or Germans set off from our borough."

It seems that a number of the German prisoners were obliged to return to Lancaster, as they could not cross the Susquehanna on account of the floating ice. They remained in the barracks until the 29th of December, when again they proceeded on their journey, as the river was frozen hard by that time.

Stone, in his work Vol. II, page 60, states:

"On the 21st, the march was continued to Hampton, (?) and on the 22d, the Susquehanna was crossed near Wright's Ferry, and quarters taken for the night at Yorktown."

In Vol. II, page 63, of the Memoirs of Major General Riedesel, Stone states:

"The fact that General Riedesel did not arrive at Lancaster on the 19th of December, with the troops, was, perhaps, a most fortunate circumstance; for the inhabitants were so enraged against him that extreme measures might have been provoked by his presence. Among the many silly reports which were circulated and believed in these excitable times by the people of Lancaster, was one to the effect that the city of Lancaster, and the surrounding country, had been presented to the German general by the king of England, and that the general would soon arrive with his troops to take possession. The excitement was, therefore, great when the German troops arrived; but as soon as the American officers on the escort explained the true position of affairs, and the pitiable condition of the troops was seen, many a good citizen of Lancaster wondered how he could have given credence to such a ridiculous rumor."

Despite the fact that this story appears in Riedesel's journal, little importance should be attached to it. Christopher Marshall, local chronicler and "town gossip," makes no mention of it what-

ever. If there had been so much excitement in Lancaster, and if the Germans believed that the borough and county of Lancaster were to be presented to General Riedesel, surely Marshall, with his intimate knowledge of conditions, would have heard of it and noted the fact in his diary. To believe such a report would have been a reflection upon the intelligence of the good people of this community in Revolutionary times, as there seems to have been no reasonable foundation for the story. It was probably started by the convention troops during their stay in Lancaster, and told to Riedesel later, as a joke.

On New Year's eve, 1778, the German troops first stepped on the soil of Virginia, and on the 15th of January, 1779, arrived at their destination, near Charlottesville, where they were quartered as prisoners of war.

Riedesel and his family remained in Virginia until November, 1779, when he was permitted to remove to New York city, where, in the autumn of 1780, he was exchanged, and given command of the British forces on Long Island. He returned to Germany in 1783.

Petition for a School in Lancaster County in 1785

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

AMONG the treasures preserved in the library of the Lancaster County Historical Society is an old paper, yellow with age, measuring 8 by 13½ inches. It was presented to our Society, about thirty years ago, by the late William Henry Egle, librarian of the Pennsylvania State Library from 1887 to 1899. The paper is of heavy, durable quality, and bears a water mark, "J. Honig Zoonen." The document consists of eight pages, and the writing is clear and legible, despite the fact that it was written, with a quill pen, one hundred and forty-four years ago. The paper has been folded twice and is badly torn where it was creased. Evidently, it has been subjected to much handling. With but very few exceptions, the spelling and the grammatical construction of the petition are as good as one could reasonably expect even to-day; and where faults do occur, they are, doubtless, largely the results of carelessness. The tendency to undue capitalization is, of course, the most serious criticism to be made of what is otherwise a well-written paper.

When folded, the outer page bears the following inscription:

"The petition of divers Inhabitants of the lower part and Fourth district of Lancaster County, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to be enacted into a Law to Incorporate such a Number of

Men as would become Liberal subscribers for the purpose of erecting a public School in Earl Township, If Supported by the Hon'l. the Legislature by their Act.

"Read 1 time, Feby 22, 1785.

"Read 2 time, March 4, 1785, & referred to the Lancaster Members."

The contents of this interesting petition are as follows:

TO THE HONORABLE THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FREEMEN
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MET.

The petition of the Subscribers, Freemen and Inhabitants, of the Lower part of Lancaster County—Respectfully Sheweth,

That the establishment of public Schools and Seminaries of Learning has ever been considered by every well regulated Government a very great and Important object of public utility. That in a Commonwealth, like ours, every good Man, in our humble opinion, ought to be well acquainted with the principles of the Constitution and Government under which he lives, and enjoy those Blessings secured through the Smiles of heaven to us by the American Independency. That the Education of Youth (as we humbly apprehend) will be the most effectual means to Inculcate and preserve Inviolable our Inestimable privileges, as Freemen, purchased at so much Blood and Treasure, and secure to the Community, at all Times, useful Men. Deeply Impressed with those Sentiments, as well by a Love we bear to our Country and our posterity, as animated by that Liberal declaration of our Excellent Constitution, where in the Frame of Government it is declared "That a School or Schools shall be established in each County by the Legislature for the Convenient Instruction of Youth", &c., We, your petitioners, Freemen and Inhabitants of the Townships of Cocalico, Brecknock, Carnervan, Salsberry and Earl, in the County aforesaid, humbly beg leave to represent and Shew to your Hon'l. House, That there is no such School established in this extensive, populous, and wealthy County of Lancaster, as recommended by the Constitution, And that tho' there were one established, either in the Borough of Lancaster, or in the middle or upper part of the said County, it would afford but little Benefit to your petitioners residing in the Lower part, and Composing a district of the same. Should it be alledged from our Local Situation and distance from the Borough of Lancaster, where we acknowledge, that private schools are kept to the great advantage of its Inhabitants, That the Education of our Children may be obtained there, We have to observe, that the Borough would afford an opportunity for the most wealthy among us only, in as much as boarding and Lodging could not be obtained there but at a high rate. Whereas, on the other hand, it would tend greatly to promote Education in this end of the County, where a School erected under the Care of able Masters, and under the direction of Judicious Trustees Incorporated, at the most Central part of the aforementioned Townships, at or near a small Village within the Township of Earl, which place from its pleasant, high, and remarkable healthy Situation, is acknowledged on all hands to be the fittest place for the accommodation of Youth, and where all the necessaries of Life, Boarding and Lodging, may be had at a much cheaper rate than in populous Cities or Towns, and where few of the Neighboring Scholars would be above Ten Miles distant from their parents' abode. YOUR PETITIONERS further beg Leave to observe, That the aforesaid Townships are much Inhabited by Germans, who are desirous to have their Children Instructed in the English Language, as We of the English Nation also are to have our Children Instructed in the German Language, Because both Languages appear to us in

this Country essential to the Man of Business and for almost every profession and calling. But that we Labour under many Inconveniences for want of able Masters, because a few Neighbours who join in setting up a private School, and sometimes at great expense, yet cannot expect to employ a capable Master, neither, as it frequently happens, are employers capable enough to Judge of the Capacity of such Masters, many of whom that pretend to Teach School, are totally destitute of all Grammatical knowledge, from whence experience has Taught us of late to believe that Teachers, particularly in English, have Introduced dialects foreign to the purity of that Tongue, We might her intimate and point out many other reasons as motives for our present application. Suffice it to say, that we will only appeal to the personal Knowledge of every Member of your Hon'l. Body. That your petitioners had it at first in Contemplation to set on foot a Subscription to raise a sum of Money, and make no doubt we would have met with desired Success and encouragement from generous and Liberal Subscribers and a Suitable Lot of Ground to Build a School house and Tenement for a Master or Masters thereon, were it not for the many and great difficulties and embarrassments which all private undertakings on all occasions have to encounter; on the other hand, we are well assured of very great success in our design, if honored and supported with the patronage or Sanction of Legislative Authority.

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray, that your Hon'l. House may be pleased, to grant to your petitioners Leave to bring in a Bill to be enacted into a Law, and to Incorporate such a Number of Men Inhabitants aforesaid and other Township Trustees of a public School to be erected at the place aforesaid, as shall be thought by your petitioners to be useful and become generous Subscribers for the Laudable purpose aforesaid.

That until measures can be devised and adopted effectually to support public Schools throughout the State, We most earnestly entreat, that our prayer (Which cannot be a public Burden) may receive the favorable reception of the Legislature.

That tho' we are fully Sensible, that the present exigencies are such, as will not for the present admit of any pecuniary support from the public, Yet with all due submission to the Hon'l. House, We would Suggest, That a small sum of Money could be granted for the support of Masters or for and towards the Building of a School House, and the same arising out of certain Fines within the County, such as of Tippling housekeepers and other transgressors of Law, &, And so much therefrom be appropriated for the use aforesaid as the Wisdom of the Hon'l. House shall think fit to direct and appoint.

And Your Petitioners, as in duty Bound, shall ever pray, &c.

The petition contains the following signatures:

John Kintzer	Jno. Amon	Michel Brubaher
Michl. Kinser	Max. Mcilvain	Peter Baker
Bejn. Lessler	Henry Hambright	Robert Good
James Watson	Joseph Cory	Alexander Martin
Philip Breitenstein	William Philips	Robert Wallace
Henry Quizer	Thos. Davis	Peter Diller
David Gern	Zaccheus Davis	Nicolaus Zund
John Amor	John Norton	Jacob Beck
Hugh Thomson	Heinrich Hatzel	Zacheus Piersol
David Mentzer	Adam Weber	David Diffenderffer
C. Difenderver, Jun.	Christian Lessle	Jonathan Rollon
Jno. Smith	James Martin	Alexander Wilson
Conrad Stein	Thomas Kettera	Peter Grimm
Jno. Diller	George Lehner	John Jenkins, Jr.
Isaac Diller	George Stein	John Zell
Wm. Perlitz	Balzer Feltenreich	Jacob Fox

Jacob Uzlacken
Isaac Cowan
John Heitzel S. M.
Philip Sprecher
John Smith
Ludwig Wolfard
James Thompson
Robert Smith
Joseph Jenkins
James Galt
Thomas Osborn
Daniel Eicher

Michael Rein
Fred Seeger
John Luther
James M. Connall
Henry Markley
Peter Ecker
Joseph Williamson
Henry Roth
John Sheibley
Earl Muller
John David
George Reins

John Huston
Mathias Shirk
Heinrich Hert
David Cowan
I. Bazelay S. W.
John Rees
John Jenkin
Isaac Jenkins.
(A portion of the manuscript is here missing. Doubtless it contained a few additional names).

It is interesting to note that among the 81 signatures to the petition, there is not a single instance of a middle name or a middle initial.

On page 2 of the original manuscript is the expression, "That the Germans are desirous to have their children instructed in the English language, as *We* of the *English Nation* also are." The indications are that the petition was prepared by Americans, and yet evidently their freedom had been too recently acquired for them to realize that *they were Americans*. Then, too, very many of the names signed to the petition are German; and yet, by signing the paper they, too, claim to be "of the English Nation."

Reference is made, on page 3 of the original manuscript, to "tippling housekeepers," and a law regarding them. It would be interesting to know what this law was.

In the Minutes of the First Sessions of the Ninth General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, published in Philadelphia by Francis Bailey, the well-known Lancaster county printer, appears the following, under date of Tuesday, February 22nd, 1785:

"A petition from divers freemen, inhabitants, of the lower part of Lancaster county, was read, setting forth, that the inhabitants of the townships of Cocalico, Brecknock, Carnarvon, Salisbury and Earl, in the said county, labour under many difficulties for want of a proper school for the education of their children, and stating that the Constitution declares that the legislature ought to establish and promote seminaries of learning; therefore praying this House to aid them in the establishment of a school for the advancement of useful knowledge, and to grant them an incorporation."

The petition was ordered to lie on the table.

Three days later, "Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of Lancaster county, were read, praying, that conformably to the Constitution, a seminary for promoting learning may be established in the said county, and suggesting that the village of Strasburg, in the said county, would be the most convenient and advantageous place to establish such a seminary." These petitions were also ordered to lie on the table.

The matter was again brought before the Honorable House on March 4th, 1785, and was referred to the members from Lancaster county, with instructions to report on the subject. On Friday, March 25th, 1785, the committee made its report. Again the matter was ordered to lie on the table. Whether it was subsequently acted upon—favorably or otherwise,—is not known.

William Priest in Lancaster

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

IN the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C., is an old and interesting volume entitled, "Travels in the United States of America, Commencing in the Year 1793 and Ending in 1797." It was written by William Priest, a musician, and was published in London in 1802.

Mr. Priest was one of the performers at a theatre in Philadelphia in the summer of 1794. On August 10th he wrote:

"Having a few weeks' vacation at the theatre, we agreed upon a scheme to give three concerts at Lancaster, a town in Pennsylvania, about seventy miles west of this city. Our band was small, but select; and our singers, Darley and Miss Broadhurst."

On August 31st, Mr. Priest wrote:

"Arrived at Lancaster, a prettily situate town of about nine hundred houses. It is reckoned the largest inland town south of New England; and, indeed, the only large town without some kind of navigation. To remedy this inconvenience as much as possible, a turnpike road (very superior to anything of the kind in America, and which will cost three thousand dollars per mile), is forming from Philadelphia, through Lancaster, to the Susquana [Susquehanna]. I told you this river, owing to the rocks and falls, was not navigable; but I forgot to inform you that the inhabitants of the back country continue to waft the produce of their plantations down the river on floats, during the floods in spring and fall; which will be conveyed by means of this new road to Philadelphia, whence it will be exported to the West Indian or European markets.

"The only manufactory in Lancaster is one of rifles; they have contracted to supply the Continental army with these 'mortal engines.'

"I have heard a hundred improbable stories relative to what has been done with the rifle by famous marksmen in America, such as shooting an apple from a child's head, etc.; to which I could not give credit: but, I have no reason to doubt the following feat, as it was actually performed before many hundred inhabi-

tants of the borough and the adjacent country. During the late war, in the year 1775, a company of riflemen formed from the back woodsmen of Virginia, were quartered here for some time: two of them alternately held a board only nine inches square between his knees, while his comrade fired a ball through it from a distance of one hundred paces! The board is still preserved; and I am assured by several who were present, that it [the marksmanship] was performed without any manner of deception.

"Lancaster was, originally, a German settlement; the inhabitants were so desirous of perpetuating their language that they established German schools for the education of the rising generation; but their descendants, finding the inconvenience of being without a knowledge of English, now send their children first to the German, and afterward to the English schools; by which means they acquire a tolerable idea of both languages. They still retain many characteristics of their ancestors; such as frugality, plainness in dress, etc.

"At our first concert, three clownish-looking fellows came into the room, and, after sitting a few minutes, (the weather being warm, not to say hot) very composedly took off their coats; they were in the usual summer dress of farmers' servants in this part of the country;—that is to say, without either stockings or breeches, a loose pair of trowsers being the only succedaneum. As we fixed our admission at a dollar each, (here seven shillings and sixpence) we expected this circumstance would be sufficient to exclude such characters; but, on inquiry, I found (to my very great surprise!) our three *sans culottes* were German gentlemen of considerable property in the neighborhood!

"They manage these matters better at Hanover (a settlement of Germans about forty miles hence). One of the articles of their dancing assembly is in these words: 'No gentleman to enter the ball-room without breeches, or to be allowed to dance without his coat.'

"We returned to Philadelphia, not overloaded with cash, but with more than sufficient for our expenses, which, owing to several excursions from Lancaster, were not trifling."

Indian Chiefs In Lancaster

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

THE following interesting news items appeared in The Intelligencer & Weekly Advertiser of Wednesday, February 4th, 1801: "On Friday evening last [January 30th] arrived in this place [Lancaster] on their way to the City of Washington, five Indian chiefs, viz. Red Jacket and three others, of the Seneca

Nation, and Saucorea, of the Tuscarora tribe, accompanied by Mr. Jasper Parish, their interpreter. The main object of their visit to Congress is, we understand, to obtain satisfaction for the death of two Indians, who were shot last August, in cold blood, by some white men. There is some other difference to be adjusted respecting the conduct of the surveyor employed by the Holland Land company; who, it appears, in running the line, has taken in land which was not ceded to the company. They left town early yesterday morning."

Red Jacket was one of the most notorious Indian chiefs of the country. He received his English name because of the pride he took in a military coat of scarlet which had been given to him by a British officer. Sad to relate, he became addicted to drink. He is said to have been unrivaled among the Senecas as an orator, and had great influence around the Indian council fires. He was the last of the great chiefs of the Seneca tribe. For a time, he was in favor of the education of his people but subsequently became a bitter opponent of education and Christianity. During the Revolutionary War, he fought on the side of the English, but seems to have become reconciled, for during the war on the frontier in 1811-14, he was of valuable assistance to our United States troops. He was born about 1751 and died in 1830. He was fifty years of age when he visited Lancaster in 1801.

Lancaster's Contribution to Portsmouth in the Fire of 1802

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

ON SUNDAY, December 19th, 1802, a fire occurred in Portsmouth, N. H., which destroyed about one hundred buildings in the business district, and occasioned a loss estimated at, approximately, half a million dollars. This was the most disastrous conflagration which, to this time, had occurred in the United States.

In The Intelligencer & Weekly Advertiser of Tuesday, January 11th, 1803, appeared a communication, over the signature of "Humanity," addressed to the editor, William Dickson. It was, in part, as follows:

"Who can sufficiently depict the sufferings of our Northern brethren on this occasion? Destitute of houses, clothing, or any of the necessaries which render this inclement season of the year comfortable, they rely on the assistance of their humane fellow-citizens throughout the United States to alleviate, in some measure, this deplorable calamity. In many places, already, voluntary sub-

scriptions have been raised and forwarded to these unhappy sufferers; and surely the benevolent inhabitants of Lancaster will not be the last in contributing their proportion. Let it not be said, that at the seat of government of the wealthiest state in the union, the citizens were devoid of humanity."

In passing, it is interesting to note this reference to Lancaster as being "the seat of government of the wealthiest state in the union." Lancaster was the capital of Pennsylvania from 1799 to 1812.

In the Lancaster Journal of Saturday, February 5th, 1803, appeared an appeal to the inhabitants of Lancaster for assistance. It was also stated in this paper that a meeting would be held at the house of George Fisher, "for the purpose of adopting such measures as may afford assistance to the distressed sufferers by the late fire at Portsmouth."

Committees were appointed to solicit subscriptions in each of the four wards of the borough. Casper Shaffner, Jr., was appointed treasurer.

In The Intelligencer & Weekly Advertiser of Tuesday, March 29th, appeared the following:

"It gives us pleasure to state the result of the contributions in this borough to alleviate the sufferings of the unhappy people of Portsmouth. The whole sum collected on this occasion is:

"From the members of the legislature,	\$335.00
"From the citizens,	200.00

\$535.00"

Meeting of the Citizens to Express Indignation at the Outrage Perpetrated by the British Ship Leopard

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

JOHAN BACH McMASTER, in his admirable "History of the People of the United States," Vol. 3, p. 240, states: "Hardly was the Constitution a year old when England began the practice of dragging American citizens from the decks of American ships, and during sixteen years had carried it on in every portion of the civilized world with impunity." Side by side with the abuse of impressment, which so sorely afflicted the United States, grew up the evil of desertion, which quite as sorely afflicted Great Britain.

In June, 1807, the frigate Chesapeake, Commodore James Barron in command, sailed down the Elizabeth river, Virginia, on her way to Europe, and dropped anchor in Hampton Roads. On the morning of the 22nd, the ship weighed anchor and put out to sea. At four o'clock in the afternoon, she was attacked by the British ship Leopard. After she had been struck by twenty-one rounds of shot and suffered the loss of three men killed and eighteen wounded, Barron surrendered. It was claimed that four of the crew were British subjects and deserters. They were taken to the Leopard, which at once made sail for her anchorage within the Chesapeake capes.

The commander of the Leopard declining to receive his prize, the Chesapeake, battered and half disabled, with three feet of water in her hold and every pump working, made her way back to Hampton Roads.

Early on the morning of the 23rd, information reached Norfolk that the Chesapeake had been attacked at sea. About two in the afternoon, she was reported at anchor in the Roads, without her flag. At four, a boat, with eleven wounded sailors, reached the wharf. The whole town was in commotion and business was suspended. McMaster states: "While some of the citizens hastened home to cast ball and make cartridges, the rest met, resolved to send no supplies to any British ship, and to hold no communication with any British agent; declared they would deem any man who did, an enemy to his country; asked the collector of the port to use the revenue cutter to prevent supplies going out to the fleet; asked the mayor to urge the colonel to call out the militia; asked the pilots not to take out any British ship; voted to wear crape for ten days; and named a committee to invite the people of the seaports to join them in refusing supplies."

While this was taking place in Norfolk, elsewhere the indignation of the people found expression in mass meetings, resolutions, toasts and preparations for war.

At four o'clock on the afternoon of Friday, July 3rd, following, the citizens of the borough of Lancaster assembled for the purpose of taking into consideration the recent outrage and aggression committed on a vessel of the United States by the British ship of war Leopard. Adam Reigart, Esq., was appointed chairman, and Major John Light, secretary. James Hopkins opened the meeting with a summary account of the recent outrage. The secretary read an article that had appeared in the Norfolk Ledger, describing the event.

A committee, consisting of Matthias Barton, William Bausman, Christopher Mayer, James Humes, William Hamilton, Wil-

liam Dickson, Samuel White, Adam Reigart, Jr., James Hopkins and William Findlay, drew up the following preamble and resolutions, which were adopted without a dissenting voice:

"Whereas, our rights and sovereignty, as a nation, have been deliberately invaded, our government and flag openly insulted, and our citizens murdered in cold-blooded cruelty by the commander of a British ship of war, acting under the savage mandate of a British admiral.

"And whereas, it is compatible with the genius of a free people to express the sentiments which flow from their feelings on questions of great national concern.

"Therefore, resolved, unanimously,

- "1. That, whilst we are desirous of cultivating a spirit of amity, and maintaining an honorable peace, with all nations; we are not disposed to submit to injury or insult from any.
- "2. Resolved, unanimously, That the outrage and indignity committed by the Leopard, a ship of his Britannic majesty, upon the Chesapeake, a frigate belonging to the United States, call loudly for reparation commensurate with the enormity of the offence.
- "3. Resolved, unanimously, That on a question so highly important to the honor and interest of the country, we shall consider the man who attempts to justify his wanton aggression as unworthy of our confidence.
- "4. Resolved, unanimously, That we will support the general government in every measure which may be adopted to assert our rights and avenge our wrongs: and we pledge ourselves that no sacrifice or hazard shall deter us from the pursuit of these great national objects.
- "5. Resolved, unanimously, That the manly and dignified conduct of the citizens of Norfolk, Portsmouth and Hampton, merit our warmest approbation."

After agreeing to the foregoing, the following resolutions were proposed and adopted unanimously:

- "1. Resolved, That the committee which reported the resolutions be a committee for the purpose of corresponding with similar committees in the United States on matters connected with the present subject.
- "2. Resolved, That the chairman and secretary of this meeting transmit to the President of the United States, and to the Governor of Pennsylvania, copies of these proceedings; and that they be printed in all the newspapers in the borough."

Andrew Jackson in Lancaster

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

IN Vol. 1, page 742, of the admirable history of York County, Pa., prepared by the late George R. Prowell, and published in 1907, appears the following:

"On Saturday morning, February 13th, 1819, General Andrew Jackson, then the head of the American army, left Washington for Baltimore. He arrived in Baltimore in the evening of the same day and remained in that city over night. Early the following morning, he and his party left for York, traveling in a carriage and in an open barouche.

"Jackson had won undying fame as a soldier in the war against the Seminole Indians in Florida and Georgia; and in the great victory he had gained over the British army during the War of 1812 in New Orleans. He was the idol of the nation, honored everywhere for his military achievements and recognized as the greatest soldier of his day in America."

Major General Jackson, who was on his way to West Point, N. Y., arrived in York on Sunday, February 14th, at 7 o'clock. His suite consisted of Colonel Butler, Dr. Bronaugh, Captain Young, Captain Huston, Captain Gall, General Owens, General Bryan, Colonel Pervaul and Colonel Mason. They remained in York for an hour, then continued on their journey to Lancaster.

The Lancaster Journal of Tuesday, February 16th, 1819, contains the following:

"General Jackson with his suite, arrived in this city [Lancaster] yesterday [Monday] morning at 3 o'clock, from the South, and started in about an hour after for Philadelphia."

The Intelligencer & Weekly Advertiser of Saturday, February 20th, 1819, states:

"The Hero of New Orleans and suite passed through this city last Monday morning; and, on Thursday last, the citizens of Philadelphia expressed their approbation of the General's conduct by giving him a public dinner. Many of our citizens regret that the General's time would not permit him to receive, from them, a similar mark of respect and affection."

Andrew Jackson was expected to visit Lancaster a second time. At a meeting of the Select and Common Councils of Lancaster on Tuesday, March 1st, 1825, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, we have reasons to believe, from late information, that this city will, in a few days, be honored with the presence of Major General Andrew Jackson, the Hero of New Orleans,

"Therefore, Resolved, By the citizens of Lancaster in Select and Common Councils assembled, That it be and is hereby recommended to illuminate on the evening of the day on which Andrew Jackson may arrive, as a testimonial of the high respect and deep sense which is entertained for the distinguished and invaluable services he has rendered to our country as a statesman and general.

"Resolved, That the mayor be requested to give the earliest notice of the time of his arrival. Extract from the minutes.

"Daniel Fuller, Clerk, Common Council

"Daniel Carpenter, Clerk, Select Council."

Owing to his wife's illness, General Jackson was not able to visit Lancaster, as at first planned. The Lancaster Journal of Friday, March 11th, 1825, contains the following:

"General Jackson, in consequence of the indisposition of his lady, is obliged to return home by the shortest route. We shall, therefore, be deprived of the pleasure which we should receive from a visit of this distinguished hero and statesman to our city at this time."

Lancaster's Contribution to Savannah in the Fire of 1820

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

ON the morning of Tuesday, January 11th, 1820, a fire started in Savannah, Georgia, and in less than twelve hours the principal part of the city was in ruins. Thousands of inhabitants lost their homes; and were left without the common necessities of life. At that time, this was the most destructive conflagration that had ever visited the United States.

Collections of money, food and clothing for the relief of the sufferers were made in many cities and towns of the country. The legislature of Pennsylvania appropriated ten thousand dollars.

A meeting of the citizens of Lancaster was held at the court house on Saturday evening, February 5th, 1820, for the purpose of securing relief for the sufferers. John Passmore, mayor of the city of Lancaster, was appointed chairman, and George B. Porter, secretary.

Mr. Passmore laid before the meeting a circular which had been addressed to him by the Committee of Correspondence and Superintendence in the city of Philadelphia, in which it was stated that "Between twelve and one o'clock on the morning of January 11th, the fire commenced, and in twelve hours time the principal part of the city was reduced to ashes. The number of habitations (exclusive of the public buildings) thus rapidly destroyed is stated to be 464, so that at the moderate estimate of five persons to each

dwelling house, 2315 individuals have been deprived of shelter in this inclement season, with the loss of almost every article of apparel necessary for their personal protection and comfort. The value of the whole amount of property destroyed is said to be upwards of \$4,000,000."

Committees were appointed at this meeting to obtain contributions from the citizens of Lancaster, as follows:

North-east Ward.

Jacob Long,
Jonathan Foltz,

Peter Shindle,
Emanuel Shaeffer.

North-west Ward.

William Dickson,
George Matter, Esq.,

Jonas Dorwart,
Jacob Snyder.

South-west Ward.

J. Whiteside, Esq.,
J. F. Steinman, Jr.,

George Krug,
John Christ.

South-east Ward.

Jacob Slough,
E. Reigart, Esq.,

Jacob Fordney,
Henry Diffenbaugh.

Joseph Ogilby, Esq., cashier of the Office of Discount and Deposit in Lancaster, was made treasurer of the fund, and Adam Reigart was appointed to receive donations in grain or flour.

Two weeks later, Saturday, February 19th, an adjourned meeting was held at the court house. The committees reported that \$711.28 had been collected.

In the *Intelligencer & Weekly Advertiser* of Saturday, March 25th, 1820, appeared the following:

"Police Office, Savannah, March 6th, 1820.

"Sir:

"I have the honor and the happiness to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd ultimo enclosing a draft of the cashier of the Bank of Pennsylvania, on the Bank of the State of Georgia, for \$709.36, the donation for the relief of our sufferers, from the inhabitants of the city of Lancaster. If no other sum had been remitted than the kind-hearted, munificent contribution of our brethren of Philadelphia, amounting, I believe, to \$7000, we could not, under any feelings of gratitude, have expected more from the liberality of our brethren of Pennsylvania; but this further bounty, and affectionate attention of the people of Lancaster, whilst it shows the deep interest taken by your fellow-citizens in the calamity which has desolated this once fine city, renders every Pennsylvanian a favorite brother and countryman.

"I pray you, Sir, in behalf of the sufferers, and of this corporation, to tender the municipal authority and inhabitants of Lan-

caster, their warmest thanks. Believe the assurance, Sir, that you have the best esteem of us all, and that no one can offer, with more sincerity, the homage of his best respects, than, Sir, your fellow citizen and most obedient servant,

“Thos. U. P. Charlton,
“Mayor of Savannah.”

“To
Hon. Wm. Tilghman, Philadelphia.”

Sixty-four barrels of flour were donated by the citizens of Lancaster city and county. Four of these were sold to defray the expense of transporting the remainder to Savannah. An additional contribution of \$27.68, received from people who were absent from home when the committees made their collections, was reported in the Intelligencer & Weekly Advertiser of Saturday, July 15th, 1820. In it also appear the names of those who contributed barrels of flour, as follows:

DONORS	TOWNSHIP	BARRELS
John Shenk	Conestoga	1
Martin Light	“	1
Isaac Heiney	“	1
John Bausman	“	1
David Miller	Hempfield	1
David Brubaker, Jr.	“	1
Jacob and John Brubaker	“	1
Henry Bear	“	1
John Lehman	“	1
John Lehman, Jr.	“	1
Benjamin Hershey	“	1
Abr. and John Brubacker	“	1
Andrew Gerber	“	2
Christian Stauffer	Leacock	9
Jacob Mayer	Manheim	1
John Myer	“	1
John and Jacob Kauffman and neighbors	“	12
Peter Baughman	“	2
Henry M. Reigart	“	2
John Stehman and neighbors	“	8
John and Andrew Kauffman	Manor	1
Benjamin Mellinger	“	1
John Mellinger	“	1
Christian Martin and neighbors at Ben- ders's Mill	“	6
Jacob Hershey and neighbors	“	5
Emanuel Reigart	City of Lancaster	1
TOTAL		64

Collections in Aid of the Sufferers from Fire in Columbia

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

ON Friday, October 25th, 1822, at eleven o'clock at night, a fire originated in the back building attached to the tavern of a man named Quarles, in Columbia, Lancaster county, Pa. Before the fire could be controlled, the tavern and the dwellings of John Gonter, Jr. and Mr. Briggs, were destroyed.

A committee was appointed in Lancaster to receive donations for the unfortunate individuals whose property was thus destroyed. The Lancaster Journal of Friday, November 22nd, 1822, stated that a total of \$400.75 had been received for the sufferers and deposited in the Branch Bank of Pennsylvania.

Collections for the Sufferers from Fire in Lancaster in 1823

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

ON Friday, July 25th, 1823, near midnight, the inhabitants of Lancaster were awakened by the cry of fire. It originated in the carpenter shop of William Russell, at that time located in the fifth block of North Queen street, directly opposite old Franklin college. The Lancaster Intelligencer of Tuesday, July 29th, 1823, states: "Notwithstanding all the exertions of our firemen and citizens, the fire could not be got under, until it consumed nearly all the property of Mr. Russell, viz.: two carpenters' shops, with all their contents, consisting of a great variety of very valuable tools, still house, stills, and stilling apparatus, horse-stables, several cow-stables, the covering of a very extensive ice-house and a great quantity of hay and grain. And also two stables, with their contents, belonging to George Best and Philip McCartney. Many of the neighbors, not well able to bear the loss, also suffered considerably by having their fences torn down, gardens destroyed, etc. The loss sustained by Mr. Russell, who is one of our most active and industrious citizens, is very great; not less, we understand, than \$2000.00. No doubt is entertained but that this fire was the work of an incendiary."

The citizens of Lancaster, with their accustomed sympathetic promptness, met on Saturday, the day after the fire, at eight o'clock in the morning. A committee was appointed for each ward to solicit contributions for the relief of the sufferers. Samuel Dale, Joseph Ogilby, Edward Coleman, Frederick Hambright and Samuel

Carpenter, Esquires, were appointed a general committee to receive the money collected and distribute it in proportion to the respective losses.

The Lancaster Journal of Friday, August 22nd, 1823, informed the public that the following sums had been collected :

North-east Ward	\$285.28
North-west Ward	217.85
South-east Ward	99.83
South-west Ward	106.25
At Lititz, Pa.	39.04
	<hr/>
	\$748.25

Relief of the Sick and Poor

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

ON Wednesday, September 10th, 1823, a meeting was held in the court house for the purpose of adopting measures for the relief of the sick and the afflicted poor of the city of Lancaster. William Kirkpatrick was appointed chairman, and John R. Montgomery secretary. Judge Charles Smith explained to the audience the reason for the town meeting. The following persons were appointed to obtain subscriptions:

North-east Ward.

Henry Y. Slaymaker	John Getz
George L. Mayer	P. W. Reigart

South-east Ward.

William White	Benjamin Ober
Emanuel C. Reigart	John R. Montgomery

South-west Ward.

John F. Steinman	Jasper Slaymaker
George H. Krug	John Myer

North-west Ward.

George Musser	B. Champneys
John Ihling	William Frick

William Kirkpatrick was appointed treasurer.

The following committee was appointed to devise ways and means to secure the desired relief:

	North-east Ward.
George L. Mayer	Samuel Slaymaker
	South-east Ward.
William White	Emanuel C. Reigart
	South-west Ward.
John F. Steinman	Daniel Moore
	North-west Ward.
George Musser	William Frick

The Rev. Dr. Christian L. F. Endress, pastor of Trinity Lutheran church, the Rev. William Ashmead, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, the Rev. Joseph Clarkson, rector of Saint James's Protestant Episcopal church and his assistant, the Rev. William Augustus Muhlenberg, Judges Walter Franklin and Charles Smith, were appointed a committee to inquire into the expediency of establishing a dispensary in Lancaster.

On Tuesday evening, January 13th, 1824, the citizens of the town again assembled in the court house. Adam Reigart occupied the chair, with Benjamin Champneys as secretary. The committee appointed to collect funds reported the following contributions and disbursements:

September 11th, 1823.

Contributions:	\$193.19
Balance:35
	<hr/>
	\$193.54

Disbursements:

To Daniel Moore and John F. Steinman, for the relief of 21 sick families in the South-west Ward:	\$ 25.50
To George Louis Mayer, for the relief of 31 sick families in the North-east Ward:	26.55
To George Musser and William Frick, for the relief of 51 sick families in the North-west Ward:	41.75
To William White and Emanuel C. Reigart, for the relief of 19 sick families in the South-east Ward:	24.12
To Mrs. Ann Moore, for filling 356 prescriptions of medicine from Doctors Atlee, Carpenter, Heintzelman, Galbraith, Fahnestock, Herbst, Muhlenberg, Humes, Miller and Thompson:	64.38
To Mrs. Ann Moore, balance on a former account:	11.24
	<hr/>
	\$193.54

More than 122 families received assistance.

The thanks of the members present at the meeting were tendered to the Committee of Distribution for its benevolent exertions

in executing the will of those who had contributed generously to alleviate the distress of the poor and sick of the community.

The Committee on a Dispensary recommended that one be established. The Rev. William Augustus Muhlenberg, Rev. William Ashmead, Rev. Dr. Christian L. F. Endress, William Kirkpatrick and John F. Steinman were appointed a committee to execute this recommendation. Whether or not the dispensary was established is not known.

Lancaster's Contribution to New Castle in the Fire of 1824

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

ON Monday, April 26th, 1824, a fire broke out in New Castle, Delaware. More than twenty houses were destroyed; and as many families, amongst which were the town's most industrious and worthy citizens, were without shelter except such as was furnished through the kindness of those whose houses had escaped the conflagration. This calamity deprived these unfortunate people of their property and left them, for the time, without homes or the means of acquiring sustenance.

Immediately after the fire, a committee, consisting of prominent citizens of New Castle, was formed for the purpose of obtaining assistance from the benevolent in adjoining states. The Committee of Correspondence, as it was called, sent a letter of appeal, dated April 28th, 1824, to Samuel Carpenter, Esq., mayor of Lancaster, Pa. Immediately upon the receipt of the letter, the mayor called a meeting of the citizens. It was held in the court house on Tuesday, May 4th. Samuel Carpenter, Esq., was appointed chairman, and Nathaniel Lightner, secretary. Committees were appointed to receive contributions for the relief of the sufferers, as follows:

	North-east Ward.	
Maj. John Getz		Frederick D. Hubley
	South-east Ward.	
John Reigart		Thomas Jefferies
	North-west Ward.	
Christopher Hager		John Ihling
	South-west Ward.	
George Krug		John Mathiot

The mayor was appointed to receive all monies collected and to remit to the committee at New Castle.

Governor Clinton in Lancaster

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

DE WITT CLINTON, statesman, was born in Orange county, New York, March 2nd, 1769; and died in Albany, New York, on February 11th, 1828. He served his native state in several offices throughout his life, having been a member of the state legislature, United States senator, mayor of New York city and governor of the Empire State.

Mr. Clinton was in Lancaster on Tuesday, August 9th, 1825. Where he spent the night is not known. The Lancaster Journal of Friday, August 12th, 1825, contains the following:

"Governor Clinton was in this city on Tuesday night. He arrived very late in the evening, and set out early in the morning for Philadelphia. We regret that the citizens of this place had not an opportunity of testifying, in a public manner, the exalted opinion which they entertain of the merits and services of this distinguished individual, who may be justly styled the Father of Internal Improvement of this country."

The Great Fire of 1825

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

ON Wednesday, October 19th, 1825, the city of Lancaster was visited by the most destructive fire, that, so far as known, had ever occurred in the town. It was caused by some one carelessly throwing live coals on a heap of refuse matter. The fire spread instantly to an adjoining livery stable, owned by William C. Hull. The weather being very dry and a high wind prevailing, the flames ignited near-by buildings, and in a comparatively short period totally destroyed two large brick houses on West King street, a barn owned by Jacob Fry, Jr., Mr. Jacob Lindy's brick house, and a brick building next door occupied as a hatter's shop.

The Lancaster Journal of Friday, October 21st, 1825, states, "Fortunately the wind moderated soon after the commencement of the fire, or there is no calculating the extent of the damages that might have been sustained. The jail [located at Prince and West King streets] was in danger, the roof of Mr. Krug's bark house [site of the present Stevens House] was repeatedly on fire, and a number of houses at a considerable distance caught in the roof from the cinders lodging in the joints of the shingles. Great and praiseworthy exertions were made by the citizens to arrest the progress of the flames, but, unfortunately, the scarcity of water very much retarded their efforts. A number of gentlemen from

Marietta, Maytown, Columbia, and other parts of the county, [who were attending court] exerted themselves with a zeal which justly entitled them to the gratitude of the inhabitants of Lancaster."

The Lancaster Intelligencer of Tuesday, October 25th, 1825, in referring to the conflagration, called attention in its editorial column to the fact that in the future every precaution should be taken to guard against fires; and reminded its readers that "much harm may be avoided by having our chimneys swept in time." The editor desired to know what citizen could ever forgive himself, if through his negligence, or for the sake of saving the paltry sum of twenty cents (evidently the price charged at that time for sweeping a chimney), "he should be the cause of burning the property of his neighbor and turning his family out of doors."

At a meeting of the citizens of Lancaster held at the court house on Thursday, the day following the fire, for the purpose of taking into consideration the situation of the sufferers, Hon. Patton Ross, recorder of the city of Lancaster, was appointed chairman, and Emanuel C. Reigart, secretary.

A committee, consisting of Hon. James Buchanan, John Myer, George B. Porter, Jasper Slaymaker and Major John Getz, was appointed for the purpose of examining into the circumstances and losses sustained. Committees for making collections and receiving contributions for the use of the sufferers, were appointed as follows:

North-west Ward.

Jacob Snyder
J. F. Voight

Jonas Dorwart
George Matter, Esq.

North-east Ward.

Henry Keffer
William Norris

Thomas Wentz
John Carroll

South-west Ward.

G. H. Krug
H. Carpenter

William Russel
F. Hambricht

South-east Ward.

Leonard Eicholtz
Robert Evans

Levi Rogers
S. D. Orrick

How much money was contributed and by whom given and collected, is not definitely known. Subsequent issues of the local papers do not contain any references to these matters. The Lancaster Journal of Friday, October 28th, 1825, however, states that a theatrical company then playing in the town gave a benefit performance on Monday evening, October 24th. The proceeds amounted to forty-two dollars and six cents. One half of this sum was received for the aid of the sufferers.

George H. Krug, Bernhard Haag, Alexander Miller and John Myer, through the medium of the Lancaster Journal, thanked "the citizens in general for their indefatigable exertions in protecting their property from destruction."

At a meeting of the citizens of Lancaster held in the court house on Tuesday, October 25th, 1825, Nathaniel Lightner, Esq., mayor of the city, was called to the chair. Christian Bachman was appointed secretary. The meeting was for the purpose of creating a better and more efficient organization of the firemen and citizens in the event of fire; and also to adopt measures to procure sufficient water. A committee, consisting of General George B. Porter, James Hopkins, Esq., James Buchanan, Esq., Samuel Dale, Esq., and Martin Shreiner, was appointed to determine what should be done.

An adjourned meeting was held in the court house on Saturday evening, October 29th, at which time the fire companies were requested to appoint from among their members a suitable person as director or captain; that the persons so appointed from each of the companies constitute the board of management; that they wear a badge or mark of distinction, by which they may be known to all; and that they have the sole right to fix the stations of the engines, to order the removal of buildings and other property, and to make such arrangements as they deem wise for successfully fighting fires. City councils were also urged to adopt "such measures as may be necessary to ascertain the practicability and probable expense of introducing the waters of the Conestoga into the city of Lancaster." It was not, however, until Washington's birthday, February 22nd, 1837, that water from the Conestoga flowed for the first time into the reservoir on East King street.

Collections in Aid of the Greeks

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

In the Lancaster Journal of Friday, February 16th, 1827, appeared the following appeal:

"The undersigned, having been appointed by the Greek committee of Philadelphia as their agents in this neighborhood for raising a supply of food and raiment for the oppressed and famishing Greeks, earnestly solicit the aid of their fellow citizens of the county of Lancaster, in contributing to the alleviation of the distress and wretchedness of that gallant nation, suffering in addition to the misery of war with a most ferocious and sanguinary enemy, the horrors of a destitution of the necessaries of life; and moreover threatened, in the event of being subjugated, with ex-

termination. The time draws near when a shipment will be made of whatever shall have been collected; and there are many hundreds of the inhabitants of the city and county of Lancaster, who though not personally called on, would gladly make donations, if persons not far distant were appointed to receive them, and give them their proper destination. To all those, therefore, who have benevolent hearts and are blest with ability, the agents make this appeal, and request them to send their contributions to William Kirkpatrick or Adam Reigart, of the city of Lancaster, at as early a period as possible. Money will be the most acceptable, but provisions and clothing will be thankfully received and carefully transmitted.

“William Kirkpatrick

“Adam Reigart

“Walter Franklin

“John Reynolds”

In the Political Sentinel and Lancaster Literary Gazette of Monday, March 19th, 1827, appears the following, under the heading of “Greek Fund”:

“We ought, perhaps, to have stated before this, that \$227.00 was transmitted to the Greek committee of Philadelphia by William Kirkpatrick, Esq., chairman of the Lancaster committee, on the 3rd of this month. The receipt of upwards of \$15,000.00 has already been acknowledged by the Philadelphia committee, besides clothing, provisions, etc., for the relief of the suffering Greeks. The enthusiasm which prevails on this subject may be all very correct, but we really think the charity of our citizens would be as well employed in the relief of poor suffering Americans. Objects plenty can be found in the city of Lancaster, whose hearts would have been gladdened by a temporary relief during the past winter. Hundreds of little children, nearly barefooted, were daily seen trudging into town with large bundles of wood on their heads, necessary to cook the scanty morsel which the penury of their parents afforded them. The relief of these poor sufferers, however, would not sound so musical in the newspapers; but in our estimation, it would sound equally as well in the ear of Heaven.”

The Franklin Society

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

IN December, 1799, “The Franklin Society” of Lancaster was formed. The names of the officers and members are not now known. In The Intelligencer & Weekly Advertiser of Wednesday, December 24th, 1800, appeared the following:

“Saturday last, being the anniversary of the establishment of the Franklin Society in this borough, the members and a number

of other citizens met at the Franklin Inn and partook of an elegant supper, prepared for the occasion; after which the following toasts were drunk:

1. "Benjamin Franklin."
2. "The Franklin Society. May its members imitate the man whose name it bears."
3. "Union and Brotherly Love: the cement of all societies. May they be the distinguishing characteristics of this Society."
4. "All societies throughout the world which have for their basis the good of mankind."
5. "Useful knowledge: a safe barrier against the oppressors of the rights of man."
6. "Social life, and the blessings of a Republican government."
7. "Thomas Jefferson: his country's pride and hope."
8. "The Governor of Pennsylvania."

The Society continued in existence for at least ten or more years, as the following advertisement indicates. It is to be regretted that we do not have the minutes of its proceedings. Apparently they are hopelessly lost.

In The Intelligencer & Weekly Advertiser of Saturday, May 5th, 1810, appeared an announcement that the Franklin Society met, pursuant to adjournment, on Saturday, April 28th, and discussed the following question: "Can any legal restraint be imposed on the press?" The Society met on six successive Saturdays following, and debated these topics, which, doubtless, at the time seemed to be very important ones.

May 5th. "Would it be beneficial to the United States to instill military notions into the minds of youth?"

May 12th. "Would the general abolition of the slave trade be attended with good consequences in the United States?"

It is interesting to note that even so early as 1810, the question of slavery, which was to find its blood-bought solution in our great Rebellion a half century later, was uppermost in the minds of our citizens.

May 19th. "Is a knowledge of the Latin and Greek languages a necessary part of education?"

May 26th. "Are riches productive of happiness?"

June 2nd. "Is love or anger the most predominant passion?"

June 9th. "Ought the United States to declare war against any of the belligerent Powers of Europe?"

The name of George L. Mayer appears as secretary in connection with the notices in the paper.

How long the Franklin Society continued to exist is not known.

Minutes of The Lancaster County Historical Society

May 3, 1929

The May meeting of the Lancaster County Historical Society was called to order by the president, Prof. Herbert H. Beck. Thirty-eight members were present.

The treasurer, Mr. A. K. Hostetter, reported a balance in the treasury at the last meeting, \$827.12; receipts, \$8.84; payments, \$190.93; balance on hand, May 3, \$645.03.

The librarian reported the following donations: A spinning wheel, made for Fannie Simmons Keesey in 1806, and presented to the Society, by her granddaughter, Mrs. Frances Stauffer Pickel; a patent for an ox-yoke from Mr. Leander T. Hensel; a miscellaneous collection of pamphlets from Miss Eleanor J. Fulton.

Two persons were elected to membership in the Society: Mr. Frank E. Herr, Millersville, Pa.; Mr. Geo. Stradtman, 125 S. Marshall Street, Lancaster, Pa.

Prof. Beck announced that the tablet to be placed on the home of Rev. Henry Muhlenberg, now the Appel building, would be unveiled about May 10, and that the committee found that the people of Manheim were not willing to erect a monument to Henry W. Stiegel, in the public square of that town; but that they would be willing to have one placed in the graveyard, at a more moderate cost than had at first been planned.

Prof. Beck also announced that the celebration on Founder's day, May 10, would take the place of the "Spring Social," and recommended that a summer outing be planned to take place in June or early in July.

Mrs. A. K. Hostetter moved that we hold an outing in July, a committee to be appointed by the chair to make necessary arrangements as to time and place.

Mr. Hostetter moved that orders be drawn on the treasury to pay the usual bills.

Mr. Martin reported that the property committee plans to paint all the woodwork, back and front of the house, concrete part of the yard and change the spouting in the rear, thus adding to the value of our building.

Mrs. D. B. Landis moved that we hold an informal social at the June meeting. The president turned the matter over to the house committee for action.

The paper of the evening, consisting of a number of short sketches, under the title of "Items of Interest in Lancaster," was prepared by Mr. William F. Worner. Mr. A. K. Hostetter, assisted Mr. Worner, by reading several of these sketches. Prof. Beck, Mr. Hostetter and Mr. D. B. Landis commented favorably on the paper.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

GERTRUDE HENSEL HALDY,
Recording Secretary.

THE LANCASTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA

ORGANIZED 1886

REORGANIZED 1896

INCORPORATED 1901

The regular meetings of the Society are held on the first Friday of each month, from September to June, inclusive, at 7:30 P. M., in the Society's building, 307 North Duke street, Lancaster, Pa. No meetings are held during July and August.

Every person whose heart beats responsive to the effort to preserve the history and traditions of our noble county, is specially invited to become a member of this Society. Application blanks may be had at the building or through the officers.

Annual dues, \$3.00; Marker dues, \$5.00 in addition to the annual dues. This additional \$5.00 becomes a part of a fund created for the purpose of erecting tablets on old buildings and for marking other sites of historical interest in Lancaster city and county. Sustaining Membership, \$10.00; Life Membership, \$100.00.

A literary and social entertainment is held every spring, and a delightful outing every summer, to which members and their friends are cordially invited.

The Society issues ten pamphlets annually, containing historical papers and addresses read at the ten stated meetings. Members whose dues are paid regularly and promptly, are entitled to receive these publications.

Historical papers relative to our city and county are earnestly solicited to be read at our meetings and preserved. The Society will appreciate the return of such issues of our historical pamphlets as our members do not care to preserve, as there are many calls for them.

Historical relics are always acceptable and are carefully treasured. The Society will also be glad to receive, in written or printed form, old tales, traditions or folk-lore, with historical foundation, connected with the earlier days of our city and county. Old letters from prominent people will be most heartily welcomed.

In order to secure a modern fire-proof building in which to house our increasingly valuable collections, a Building Fund has been established to which the people of this community and elsewhere are urged to contribute. By so doing, the praise-worthy objects of this Society will be greatly encouraged, and much valuable material, which otherwise might become lost, will be preserved.

Make checks payable to the order of the Treasurer.

Members and friends should remember the Society in their wills. Such bequests will be gratefully appreciated. They afford fine opportunities for perpetuating the names and helpful influence of donors. The legal form for a bequest is as follows:

"I give and bequeath to The Lancaster County Historical Society, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, the sum of _____ Dollars, free and clear of transfer inheritance tax."

The Public is invited to attend all regular meetings